

28 December 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 28 December 1965

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Mr. Helms was in the chair as Acting DCI.

DD/I noted that Secretary Freeman has been given an Agency memo dealing with [] facilities for the handling and distribution of food.

DD/I noted that Senator Symington currently on a round-the-world trip intends to look closely into NATO matters when he reaches Paris.

DD/I noted receipt of a letter of appreciation for Agency support to an interagency study group on China.

DD/I cited the current monthly report on the status of foreign-flag shipping to NVN. The number of ChiCom ships providing NVN with economic goods is on the increase. (See Action 1)

DD/I noted completion of a detailed study by the DD/I Research Staff dealing with the ChiCom and Soviet roles in support to NVN. Mr. Helms said he wanted to see a copy of this.

[] noted that SAC strikes and U-2 reconnaissance operations in Vietnam have been approved for resumption. Other air operations over NVN remain stood down.

[] tabled a map of the drone shootdown by MIGs in NVN on 24 December. Analysis of the evidence [] that the shootdown occurred in NVN.

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[] noted the NLFSVN announcement of a four-day truce during the coming Tet holidays next month. This has been a standard annual occurrence.

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[] noted an article by Richard Critchfield in the Star last night pertaining to the truce.

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[] noted certain contradictions between COMINT and photo information pertaining to air order of battle in NVN. A memo on this subject is being prepared.

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[] reported on the analysis of the MIG-21 versus U. S. tactical aircraft in the SEA theater. Performance differences are not great, and specific readings await the actual test of experience and a knowledge of pilot performance and tactics.

It was noted that Foreign Minister Fanfani resigned in Rome today in the aftermath of the recent "peace feeler. "

Mr. Helms inquired about the status of briefing materials for the DCI's use on the Hill next month. Work is proceeding.

Kent reported on the conversation he and [] had with Walt Rostow concerning NIE's yesterday. (See Action 2)

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DD/S&T reported that word of the presence [] in NVN remains inconclusive. CIA and DIA have agreed not to publish on this subject pending proof.

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DD/S&T noted that the charter for SAC U-2 reconnaissance in the Vietnam area has been extended to include a belt thirty miles inside Cambodia over the Vietnam border.

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DD/S&T said the outlook was for a Soviet effort to launch a vehicle on New Year's Day for a soft landing on the moon.

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DD/S&T noted that [] may be able to supply answers to certain requirements levied by Navy R&D officials. DD/S&T was told to arrange with Chief, [] Division to get this information into the hands of appropriate Navy officials.

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DD/P tabled a memo setting forth the [] assessment of the Indonesian situation including a rundown on the events during the 30 September coup.

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Mr. Helms noted newspaper reports of scientific meetings in California concerning mind-effect drugs and asked whether the Agency was keeping abreast of this field. DD/S&T said that [] of OSI is au courant.

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The Acting DCI noted receipt of a letter from the Vice President thanking the Agency for its support during the past year.

The Acting DCI noted Ambassador Sullivan's cable recommending less public fanfare surrounding air strikes against Laotian infiltration corridors.

The Acting DCI commended to Kent a recent Agency intelligence report setting forth Soviet foreign policy views. The report stems from conversations between [] and a Soviet Party official. DD/P said he thought this report could be made available in essence for public consideration, and the A/DCI agreed with DD/P's suggestion that DD/P discuss this with Rostow.

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ACTIONS:

1. OGC is requested to make a copy of the monthly report on shipping to NVN available to Representative Lipscomb.

2. Kent is requested to do a Memo for the Record on his discussions with Rostow yesterday. (Kent by 3 January)

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[]
L. K. White

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